

REMARKS

Claims 11-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112. Claims 1-3, 5-7, 9 and 11-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Wu et al. (6100736). Claims 4, 8 and 10 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 14-15 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all the base claim and any intervening claims. The examiner has agreed that the prior art of record fails to disclose an apparatus and method thereof comprising elements being configured as recited in claims, specifically, none of the prior art teaches, among other things, the following limitations:

- Prior to the plurality of correcting processes, setting the correction interval to a predetermined initial value as required by claim 4.
- The period of the first clock corresponding to the period of the second clock leads the reference clock by a predetermined reference interval as required by claims 8 and 14.
- The controller terminates the correcting process if the correction interval is smaller than a predetermined value, the controller terminates the correcting process as required by claims 10 and 15.

1. Rejection of claims 11-15 under 35 U.S.C. 112:

Claims 11-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly

point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Response:

5 Claim 11 is amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112. In addition, the applicants found that claim 5 had the same defect as claim 11. Therefore, claim 5 is also amended according to the examiner's opinion. No new matter is introduced. The amended claim 11, and claims 12-15 are no longer indefinite. Reconsideration of the amended claims 5, 11, and claims 12-15 is hereby requested.

2. Rejection of claims 1-3, 5-7, and 9 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b):

15 Claims 1-3, 5-7, and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Wu et al. U.S. Patent 6,100,736 substantially as set forth in Page 3 of the Office action identified above.

Response:

20 The applicants think that the limitation "substantially half" of claim 1 is not definite enough. Therefore the limitation "substantially half" is replaced by "less than". No new matter is introduced. Claim 1 is further amended to include all limitations of claim 4. Since the examiner has agreed that none of the prior art teaches the limitation "prior to the plurality of correcting processes, setting the correction interval to a predetermined initial value", a quick allowance of the amended claims 1, 5 and claims 2-3, 6-10 of the present application is hereby requested.

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3. Rejection of claims 11-13 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b):

Claims 11-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 102(b) as

being anticipated by Wu et al. U.S. Patent 6,100,736 substantially as set forth in Pages 3-4 of the Office action identified above.

5 **Response:**

Like claim 1, claim 11 has been amended to replace the words "substantially half of" with the words "less than". No new matter is introduced. Claim 11 is further amended to include all limitations of claim 15. Since the examiner has
10 agreed none of the prior art teaches the limitation "the controller terminates the correcting process if the correction interval is smaller than a predetermined value", a quick allowance of the amended claim 11 and claims 12-14 is hereby requested.

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4. Introduction to new claims 16-24:

The new claim 16 is a combination of the original claim 1 and claim 10, which is suggested as allowable by the examiner in the above Office action. The new claims 17-24 are
20 respectively based on the original claims 2-9. A quick allowance of claims 16-24 is politely requested.

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Sincerely yours,

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